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Hopes and dreams



Senior Airman Mona Franklin

Seventeen-year-old Inna Agaltsova learns how to operate a breathing apparatus of a heat resistant suit from Senior Airman Terry Woolridge of MacDill Air Force Base, Fla.

■ Maria's Children paint their way into America's heart

**By Senior Airman
Renni Thornton and
Staff Sgt. M. Davis**
6th Air Refueling Wing
Public Affairs

MACDILL AIR FORCE
BASE, Fla. (AMCNS) -- A

group of Russian orphans
paint a better place for
themselves using their
artistic talents as therapy
and the world as their
canvas.

Twelve children from the
Maria's Children program

visited MacDill Air Force
Base, Fla., during a U.S.
tour promoting their
artwork recently.

Maria's Children, a
Moscow-based arts

See Maria, Page 4



Around the globe

Pacific



15th AF commander visits Elmendorf

ELMENDORF AIR
FORCE BASE, Alaska --
The commander of 15th Air
Force recently visited here
to talk to members of the
632nd Air Mobility Support

Squadron about the latest is-
sues affecting Air Mobility
Command and the Air Force.

Lt. Gen. Walter S. Hogle
Jr. spoke about the high pro-
motion rates for enlisted
people and how important it
is to retain quality-trained
professionals to carry out the
mission. He mentioned that
all Air Force members are
recruiters and everyone

needs to strive to recruit the
best people to ensure conti-
nuity and continued success
for the Air Force.

During his visit, the gen-
eral promoted Stan Simmons
of the 632nd AMSS to tech-
nical sergeant as part of the
Stripes for Exceptional Per-

See En Routes, Page 4

Commentary

En Route News runs commentaries from air mobility leaders each Wednesday to help keep Air Mobility Command's

en route community aware of how senior AMC leaders see the challenges of today's Air Force.

AF News

En Route News highlights news from around the Air Force to keep you informed.

Other helpful links are:

USAFE
www.usafe.af.mil

PACAF
www2.hickam.af.mil

AF Link
www.af.mil

Defense Link
www.defenselink.mil

AFPC
www.afpc.randolph.af.mil

Sight picture keeps our main priorities in order

by Gen. Hal Hornburg
Air Education and Training
Command commander

RANDOLPH AIR FORCE BASE, Texas (AFPN) -- I believe the mission statement of Air Education and Training Command should be simple and direct: To replenish the combat capability of our operational Air Force with highly trained and motivated airmen.

Granted, executing this mission is complex, but we should not lose "sight" of the ultimate goal as we work the details. That's why I believe every unit should have a "sight picture." Simply put, it's focusing our eyes on a certain target, then using the machinery and resources at our disposal to hit the target, dead center.

The command's sight picture ensures we focus on our priorities -- what I call the four "U"s - the United States of America, the United States Air Force, the unit and "you" the individual.

Everything we do must first uphold the oaths we took upon entering the service. We swore to defend our country -- not our individual service, base or home -- but

our country. We can never forget this oath. That's why I made it my top priority.

We all serve this great country for various reasons, but the sacrifices we make on a daily basis preserve the freedoms enjoyed by an entire nation. If it's not good for the nation, then it's not the right thing to do.

Our second priority must be the U.S. Air Force and our core values.

Adhering to our core values of integrity first, service before self and excellence in all we do helps us maintain the framework necessary to carry out our responsibility as a premier fighting force. Fundamental and timeless in nature, our core values reach across the entire force.

The unit comes next in

the priority list.

The best leaders forge an equitable balance between what's best for the unit and what's best for individuals. Even so, leaders occasionally must make tough decisions between an individual's desires and needs and unit mission requirements.

Rounding out my top priorities is "you." Each and every individual is vital to the success of our command and America's Air Force.

As members of the "First Command," we are the first "blue-suiters" with the Air Force's newest airmen. We recruit them, train and educate them, and then send them into the tough world of deployments, combat and other dangerous situations.

America's Air Force is the world's best because of the basic foundation we instill in each new member. Quality airmen-- motivated and trained to be the best--are our products and, without them, we are irrelevant.

Our Air Force and our nation depend on the quality of the airmen we graduate. (Courtesy of AETC News Service)

'Adhering to our core values of integrity first, service before self and excellence in all we do helps us maintain the framework necessary to carry out our responsibility as a premier fighting force.'

-- General Hornburg

En Route News highlights the great people making the en route system work. To submit someone, send an action photo and a short write up about the person's duties and contributions to the job or community. Send the information to amc-pai@scott.af.mil

Warrior of the week En Route

Rank and name: Senior Master Sgt. John E. Hollister

Job title, unit and base: Sortie generation flight chief with the 633rd Air Mobility Support Squadron at Kadena Air Base, Japan.

Brief job description: Responsible for the recovery, inspection, repair and launch of 1,500 annual transient Air Mobility Command and commercial airlift and tanker aircraft.

Hometown: Homer, N.Y.

Family: Wife of 16 years, Lisa; and daughters, Nicole, 12, and Danielle, 10.

How does Sergeant Hollister exemplify Air Force core values?:

"Sergeant Hollister lives the Air Force core values 24 hours a day, seven days a week! He is a gold medal logistician, gifted flight chief, and an extraordinary leader who has quickly conquered the highly demanding and challenging en route aircraft maintenance environment. Since taking the reigns as chief last July, he has sustained an absolutely perfect balance between safety, training and the troops' morale toward the enhancement of mission accomplishment."



Hollister

— 1st Lt. Michael D. Dailey, officer in-charge of the sortie generation flight

Air Force summit charts future of equal opportunity programs

WASHINGTON (AFPN) -- "Transforming Equal Opportunity for the New Millennium" was the theme of the first Air Force Civilian and Military Equal Opportunity Summit held recently.

As the country's demographics change, the Air Force must also change to reflect the country, according to Sharmon P. Thornton, Air Force deputy for equal opportunity, Office of the Assistant Secretary of the Air Force for Manpower, Reserve Affairs, Installations and Environment.

The summit participants convened to review past de-

velopments and current issues impacting the effectiveness of Air Force Equal Opportunity programs, and to create the foundation for the future direction of Air Force EO, she said.

To plan for the Air Force of the new millennium, the 120 equal opportunity practitioners worked in facilitated groups and focused on major issues affecting equal opportunity.

They also discussed better ways to use the talents of all Air Force people, and the diverse pool from which the Air Force is recruiting.

The summit represented a

total force mix of civilian and military EO expertise and more than 828 years of EO experience.

The goal of the summit was to gain a total force perspective of challenges experienced by both the civilian and military EO communities of the service's active, Guard and Reserve forces.

"The summit was a great success, and participant response was beyond expectations," Thornton said. "The summit created a great sense of community. It validated the importance of the EO practitioner's role in supporting the Air Force mission."

AMC's mission is to provide airlift, air refueling, special air mission, and aeromedical evacuation for U.S. forces. AMC also supplies forces to theater commands to support wartime tasking. As the Air Force component of the United States Transportation Command, AMC is the single manager for air mobility.

Maria

Continued from Page 1
rehabilitation program working with Russian children, use their skills to tap into their creative spirits and imagination.

The orphanage is self-supporting through the sale of their murals, calendars and postcards.

"This is very exciting for us," said Maria Yeliseyeva, founder of the organization. "This is a big deal for the kids, who have been working toward earning [money] for the trip."

Yeliseyeva, a local Moscow artist, has taught and mentored orphan children for seven years. Dr. Patch Adams, of movie

fame, noticed their artwork, while he visited orphanages in Russia. He was so taken with their art and Yeliseyeva's commitment, he and others have helped in creating the Maria's Children Foundation.

The children are excited to see America for the first time, Yeliseyeva said.

"They are happy that people appreciate their art and believe they can become artists," she said. "Each child has given a lot of hard work to get here. Children are so responsive to art -- like soil eagerly awaiting seeds to be planted."

America was always a

dream for 17-year-old Inna Agaltsova, "I hope to come to the U.S. and pursue an art career," she said. "The language barrier may be a slight hindrance, but can be overcome."

While in Tampa, Fla., the children have been sponsored to many local attractions -- Busch Gardens, Lowry Park Zoo, Adventure Island and the aquarium.

The children will return home next month, Yeliseyeva said. "They will bring back a message to other children in Russia that you can achieve your hopes and dreams.

GLOBE

Continued from Page 1



Tech. Sgt. Karen Glass

Lt. Gen. Walter S. Hogle Jr., 15th Air Force commander, talks with Master Sgt. Les Smith.

formers program. Hogle also had lunch with members of the Denali Chapter of the Airlift Tanker Association.

630th AMSS helps upkeep Diego Garcia

DIEGO GARCIA, British

Indian Ocean Territory -- Members of the 630th Air Mobility Support Squadron here took part in the island's historical conservation program recently to help spruce up the area.

The unit drove to the

island's isolated east side called East Point Plantation, an uninhabited part of Diego Garcia with a collection of buildings and structures built in the early 1700s by French settlers.

Each agency on the island is responsible for the upkeep and care of a certain part of the plantation. The 630th's area is a grim stone structure known as the Nursery. Its roof no longer exists and its walls bear the scars of the passing of time.

Members of the 630th AMSS did what they could to make the building a little more pleasing to the eye. This involved scraping away the moss that accumulated inside the Nursery, as well as raking the leaves that piled up on the surrounding grounds.